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Docket No.: 43888-127

PATENT

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of : Customer Number: 20277  
Makoto UCHIDA, et al. : Confirmation Number: 3380  
Serial No.: 10/069,459 : Group Art Unit: 1745  
Filed: February 26, 2002 : Examiner: Dah Wei Yuan

For: METHOD FOR PRODUCING A MEMBRANE ELECTRODE ASSEMBLY, AND  
METHOD FOR PRODUCING A SOLID POLYMER ELECTROLYTE FUEL CELL

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Mail Stop IDS  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that the documents be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the documents be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance.

**BEST AVAILABLE COPY**

CERTIFICATION PARAGRAPH

The undersigned certifies that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement as described in 37 CFR 1.97(e)(1).

Each non-English language reference was cited in a corresponding foreign application search report or office action and its relevance discussed therein. A copy of the foreign search report or office action, together with an English language version thereof, is attached for the Examiner's information.

Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

MCDERMOTT, WILL & EMERY

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**Date: May 24, 2004**

<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION</b>   <b>(PTO-1449)</b>				ATTY. DOCKET NO. <b>43888-127</b>	SERIAL NO. <b>10/069,459</b>		
				<b>APPLICANT</b> <b>Makoto UCHIDA, et al.</b>			
<b>FILING DATE</b> <b>February 26, 2002</b>				<b>GROUP</b> <b>1745</b>			
<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>							
EXAMINER'S INITIALS	CITE NO.	Document Number Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> ( <i>if known</i> )	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear		
		US 5,879,828	03/09/1999	Debe et al.			
		US 6,197,147 B1	03/06/2001	Bonsel et al.			
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<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>							
EXAMINER'S INITIALS	CITE NO.	Foreign Patent Document Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Codes ( <i>if known</i> )	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Figures Appear	Translation	
						Yes	No
		CN 1205803A	01/20/1999				
<b>OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)</b>							
EXAMINER'S INITIALS	CITE NO.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.					
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED			

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered.  
Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.